



Celebrate Mansfield Festival: Sunday, September 21 On the New Town Square

September 10, 2014 – The Mansfield Downtown Partnership invites area residents to gather at the 11th Annual Celebrate Mansfield Festival for music, food, and fun! The excitement begins with the Celebrate Mansfield Parade at noon and continues until 4:00 pm. The Celebrate Mansfield Festival will be Sunday, September 21 on the Town Square (if it rains, the event will be held inside E. O. Smith High School).

Be sure to arrive early to grab a “seat on the street” because Storrs Road (Route 195) will close at 11:45 am to accommodate the Parade. The “Pride of Connecticut” UConn Marching Band will anchor an eclectic line-up of community groups, sports teams, local businesses, animals, and larger-than-life puppets from the Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry.

Children are invited to ride their bicycle or tricycle with the traditional “Bikes, Tykes, and Trikes.” To participate, children and their adult(s) should meet at the corner of Storrs Road and South Eagleville Road (Route 275) at 11:00 am. Volunteers will be there to assemble the riders. Cyclists of all ages are required to wear helmets.

Follow the Celebrate Mansfield Parade from the Post Office, up Storrs Road to the Town Square. The E. O. Smith High School band will open the festivities with some rousing tunes. Then, Kidsville Kuckoo Revue takes to the stage to entertain the young and young-at-heart with familiar songs and dances.

Throughout the afternoon, nearly 100 Mansfield businesses and organizations will host activity booths featuring hands-on fun for all ages. UConn’s Dining Services returns to host their popular cooking demonstrations. Mansfield restaurants will have a wide variety of food available for purchase, or visitors can take a break at one of the many restaurants found throughout Downtown Storrs.

This year’s Celebrate Mansfield Festival will feature a lively performance by Humming House. At once danceable and reflective, familiar and nostalgic, Humming House is a musical experiment gone right. Woven together from diverse backgrounds (Americana, classical composition, indie rock, bluegrass, soul, and traditional Irish music), their playground of musical exploration has

something for every generation. Fresh from recording their second album with Grammy Award-winning producers Vance Powell (The White Stripes, Chris Thile, Buddy Guy) and Mitch Dane (Jars of Clay), Humming House's current tour has included notable performances at Bristol Rhythm and Roots, the Americana Music Festival, SXSW, and Old Settlers Fest. Their performance will begin at 2:30 pm.

Parking for the Celebrate Mansfield Festival will be available in the Storrs Center parking garage, which will be free for the day; in the E. O. Smith High School parking lots; and in the Mansfield Town Hall parking lot. Following the Parade, on-street parking will be available on Storrs Road.

The Celebrate Mansfield Festival would not be possible without the generous support of the many sponsors and volunteers who contribute their time and resources to this special community event. Please be sure to visit our sponsors' booths and thank them for their support!

The 2013 Platinum Sponsors are Storrs Center; The Oaks on The Square; ReminderNews; and Gulemo, Inc., Printers. The Gold Sponsors are E. O. Smith High School; the Town of Mansfield; UConn; Kahan, Kerensky & Capossela, LLP; Moe's Southwest Grill; Mooyah Burgers & Fries; Mansfield OB/GYN; WILL AM and i98.3 FM; Willimantic Waste Paper Co., Inc.; and Windham Hospital.

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For more information about the 11th Annual Celebrate Mansfield Festival, please visit www.downtownstorrsfestival.org, or call the Mansfield Downtown Partnership office (860.429.2740).